

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 1, 6, 9, 14, 31, and 38; and have canceled claims 5, 7, 8, 12, 13, 32 and 37. Claims 23-30 have been allowed, and claims 8-11 and 14-17 have been found to be allowable if placed in proper form. Applicants do not concede that the reasons for allowance provided by the Examiner are necessarily correct and/or the only possible reasons for allowance. Claims 1-4, 6, 9-11, 14-31, 33-36 and 38-41, of which claims 1, 23, 27 and 31 are independent in form, are presented for examination.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 8, which was found to be allowable, so claim 1 and its dependent claims should be passed to allowance. Claim 14, which was found to be allowable, has been rewritten in independent form, so claim 14 and its dependent claims should be passed to allowance.

Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), claims 1-7, 12, 13, 20, and 22 were rejected as being unpatentable over by U.S. Patent No. 5,656,915 ("Eaves") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,388,447 ("Hall"); and claims 1, 18, 19, and 21 were rejected as being unpatentable over by U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0109482 ("Anzawa") in view of Hall. Claim 1 is the only applicable independent claim. Applicants do not necessarily agree with these rejections and reserve the right to pursue the previously presented claims in one or more continued applications. To expedite prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claim 8, which was found to be allowable, so claim 1 and its dependent claims should be passed to allowance. Accordingly, these rejections should be withdrawn.

Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), claims 31-36, 39 and 41 were rejected as being unpatentable over Eaves in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,801,014 ("Chitsazan"); and claims 31, 37, 38 and 40 were rejected as being unpatentable over Anzawa in view of Chitsazan.

Currently amended claim 31 is the only applicable independent claim. Claim 31 has been amended to include the features of claim 32, which was not rejected over Anzawa in view of Chitsazan. Claim 31 has been amended to also include the features of claim 37, which was not rejected over Eaves in view of Chitsazan. Accordingly, these rejections should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Application Serial No. 10/717,207

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: TI01.702US

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants believe the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If allowance of this matter can be expedited, Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned representative.

Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 50-3421 (referencing Attorney Docket No. TI01.702US).

Respectfully Submitted,

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By their Representatives,
FINCH & NGUYEN PLLC

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